

III. And be it enacted, That the male members of the said church, of the full age of twenty-one years, may and shall meet on the first Monday of January next, or within ten days thereafter, and on the first Monday of January, or within ten days thereafter, in every year after the passing of this act, at their church, or at such other place within the city of Baltimore as may be appointed by the elders and trustees for the time being, notice thereof being given by the president on the Sunday preceding the day of such meeting, and may and shall then and there elect, by ballot, four of the most pious and discreet members of the said church, to serve as elders for one year, and until another election is made in virtue of this act, as also to elect four other discreet members of their body as trustees, to serve for one year, and until another election shall be made in virtue of this act.

C H A P.
LII.
Members to
meet, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That the persons so elected as aforesaid elders and trustees shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, the elders and trustees of the said church.

Persons to be
elders, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That in all cases where an elder or elders, trustee or trustees, is or are to be appointed in virtue of this act, the president, elders and trustees for the time being, shall, at least eight days before the day of such election, nominate, from the most pious and discreet members of the said church, double the number of the elder or elders, trustee or trustees, so to be appointed.

Members to
be nomi-
nated, &c.

VI. And be it enacted, That the president for the time being, and the elders and trustees now appointed, or their successors, who may hereafter be elected, or a majority of them, may meet together from time to time, and as often as they shall judge necessary, to transact, manage and regulate, the business of the church, and to make such rules and by-laws as they may judge necessary for the good conduct and government of the members, and management of their temporal concerns; provided always, that such rules and by-laws be not contrary to the constitution and laws of this state.

President, &c.
to meet, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That the said body corporate shall not be able or capable of purchasing any property, real or personal, unless with the consent and approbation of three fourths of their whole number.

Not to pur-
chase prop-
erty, &c.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all the lands and tenements, with their appertinances, now vested in the minister, or any other person for the use of the said church, and all other property of the said church, shall be and are hereby absolutely and unconditionally vested in the said body corporate, and their successors, for ever; and the said corporation, with the consent and approbation of three fourths of their whole number, shall be, and are hereby declared to be, able and capable of bargaining and selling, leasing and conveying, any part of the said property, or any other property that may hereafter be acquired by the said corporation, in as full and effectual a manner as any person or body politic may or can do.

Lands, &c.
vested, &c.

IX. And be it enacted, That at all meetings of the said elders and trustees the minister for the time being shall be the president; and all acts or deeds of the corporation shall be signed by the president, and sealed with the corporate seal; and all deeds for the conveyance of any land of the corporation, which by the law of the land ought to be acknowledged and recorded, shall be signed and sealed as aforesaid, and also acknowledged by the president, in behalf of the corporation, in the same manner and form as is prescribed in the case of individual grantors; and all acts and deeds of the said corporation, so authenticated, shall be valid and effectual in law.

Minister to be
president, &c.

X. And be it enacted, That in case of the absence, removal or death, of the minister, the elders and trustees for the time being may appoint one of their own body president *pro tempore*, who, during such absence, or in the case of removal

If absent, an-
other to be
appointed.

or